

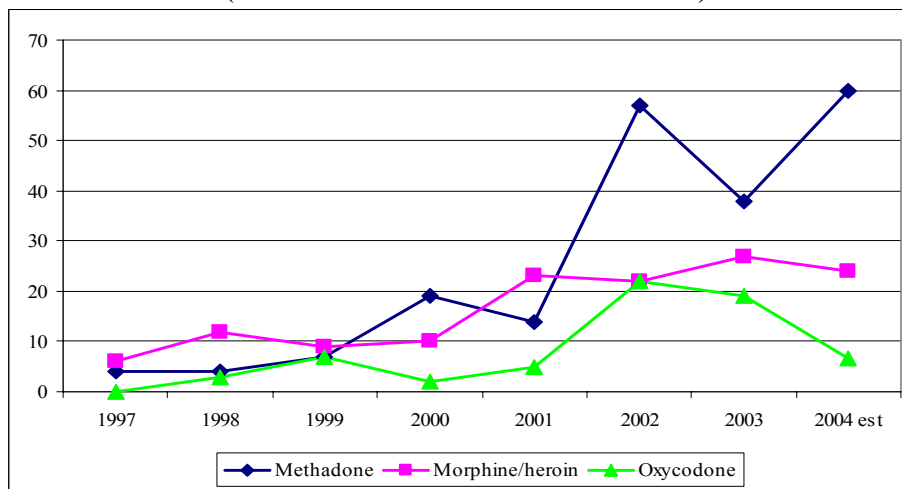
# Narcotics (Opiates and Opioids)

## **Maine Drug Use Fact Sheet – April 2005** Community Epidemiology Surveillance Network (CESN)

Misuse or abuse of narcotics in Maine is at an all time high, including a dramatic increase in morbidity and mortality associated with methadone and heroin abuse. Narcotics, effective pain management medications, include such substances as oxycodone (OxyContin), morphine, hydrocodone, methadone and codeine.

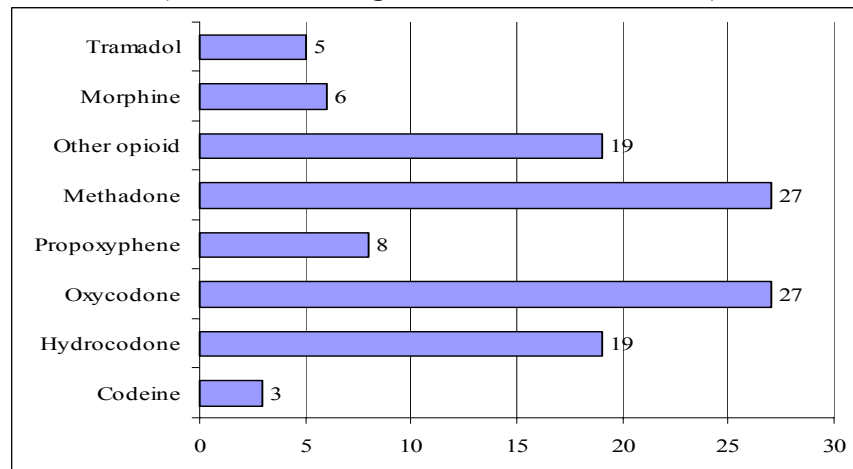
- *Medical examiner data from 1997-2004 shows that since 2002, methadone has been the leading cause of narcotic-induced deaths.*

**Number of narcotic-induced deaths, 1997-2004**  
(Maine Office of Chief Medical Examiner)



- *In 2004, oxycodone and methadone have been leading causes of narcotic poisoning exposure in Maine with 27 calls due to ingestion of these drugs and potential toxic exposure.*

**Leading causes of narcotics poisoning exposures, 2004**  
(Northern New England Poison Center in Maine)

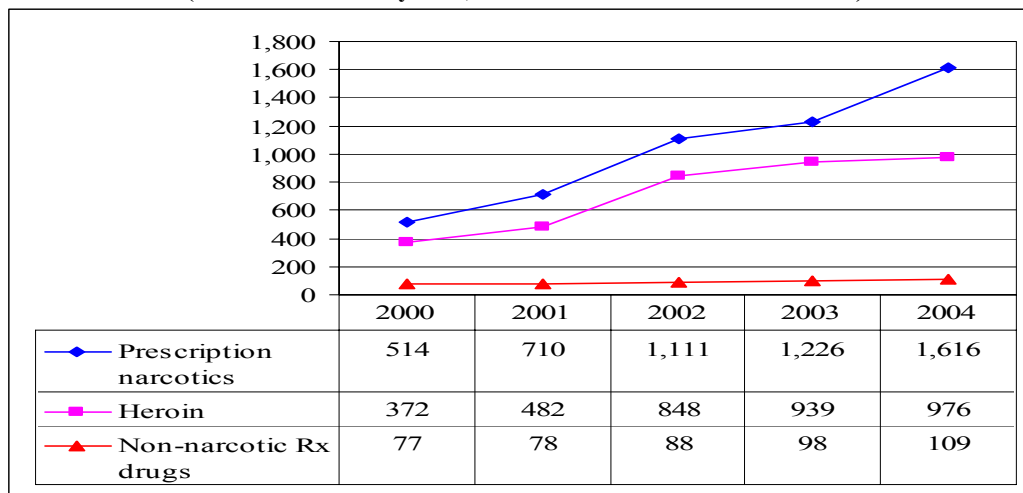


# *Narcotics (Opiates and Opioids)*

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- *Treatment admissions for prescription narcotics and heroin have increased significantly from 2000 to 2004.*

**Volume of treatment admissions for opium/opiates compared to other drugs, 2000-2004**  
(Treatment Data System, Maine Office of Substance Abuse)



Note: Treatment admissions due to narcotics constitute a small percent of total admissions; hence the values are shown in absolute numbers rather than percentages.